

Chapter 12

Introduction to the New Zealand TUI Research Programme

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12.1 Outline of the research programme

Generally, the research programme focuses on the following:

- Technology users as a source of innovation
- Elucidating how socio-technical networks work to help or hinder innovation
- Identifying the unique technology governance factors in New Zealand
- Identifying the distinctive cultural qualities of New Zealand innovation
- 3 years, NZ\$ 1.8m, ends September this year
- <http://www.lincoln.ac.nz/tui>.

There are two main research objectives:

1. User innovation and socio-technical networks in selected New Zealand sectors
2. Cross-cultural comparisons of New Zealand innovation culture

Approach and methods:

- Science and Technology Studies approach
- Case study interview data: formal case comparisons (fsQCA); analysis of actors, flows and success
- Cultural modelling
- Analysis of available survey data

The farming, building and energy sectors were included.

Key milestones and outcomes:

- Determine the factors supporting or discouraging innovation
- Determine the distinctive cultural, governance and social capital factors influencing innovation
- Why? In order to contribute to:
 - an enhanced innovation rate
 - improved innovation governance.

Key end users:

- Ministry of Science and Innovation
- Ministry of Economic Development

- Building Research Association of NZ
- Department of Building and Housing
- Energy Efficiency Conservation Authority
- The Federation of Maori Authorities
- Fletchers Construction Company.

Rationale for the research:

- There is a need to improve NZ's innovation ranking
- Where do we stand in terms of innovation rating?

Country	GII Total	GII Rank
United States	5.28	1
Germany	4.99	2
Sweden	4.84	3
United Kingdom	4.82	4
Singapore	4.81	5
South Korea	4.73	6
Switzerland	4.73	7
Denmark	4.69	8
Japan	4.65	9
Netherlands	4.64	10
New Zealand	3.97	27

Country	III Total	III Rank
Singapore	2.45	1
South Korea	2.26	2
Switzerland	2.23	3
Iceland	2.17	4
Ireland	1.88	5
Hong Kong	1.88	6
Finland	1.87	7
United States	1.80	8
Japan	1.79	9
Sweden	1.64	10
New Zealand	0.77	26